

good will, including the 65 percent of self-described pro-choice voters who oppose partial birth abortions, to do all they can to urge the Congress to override this shameful veto."

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me this time. I think this is one of the most important issues that this Congress has had the privilege to debate. Again, I think it is appalling and discouraging and disappointing that the President of the United States vetoed the bill that was passed by the House and Senate to protect the healthy unborn.

FURTHER TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HONORABLE RON BROWN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California [Ms. PELOSI] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, last evening our colleague, the gentlewoman from North Carolina, Representative EVA CLAYTON, called a special order to honor the memory of and celebrate the life of Secretary of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown. There were so many of us who wanted to participate that we have some overflow this evening. I am among those. I want to acknowledge the leadership of the gentlewoman in calling that special order. She asked us to focus not only on our personal, but our professional relationships with Ron Brown in remembering him.

First, I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that our country suffered a staggering tragedy with the loss of our distinguished Commerce Secretary, Ron Brown. How he would enjoy seeing some of the tributes to him that were written in the past week. The Washington Post says "Best in the Business." Another headline, "Brown, a Pioneer at Home In Black and White America. Ex-Party Chief Had Key Role in Clinton Win." Indeed he did.

Another headline, "Builder of Bridges." How he would like to have seen this headline, "Devoted To Mission Until the End." "Ron Brown's contribution to his people," "Changing the face of America's executive suites, still lily white, is a tribute worthy of Brown."

And the list goes on and on of Ron Brown's contributions. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown showed endearing enthusiasm for whatever task he undertook. How true that is.

I call these to your attention, Mr. Speaker, and to the attention of our colleagues, because I know that Ron Brown would have enjoyed them. I hope that they are a source of comfort to the Brown family.

Our colleague the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, Ms. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, when she made her presentation last evening mentioned some of the other people who, unfortunately, also lost their lives in the tragedy, and I would like to call attention to three others who I am familiar with.

The First Lady attended the funeral of Adam Darling, an optimistic and interested person in politics who went on to work at the Commerce Department under Ron Brown's leadership. I note with particular sadness the death of Bill Morton, a dynamic and brilliant young man who devoted his life to advancing minorities in public service. And in our community in San Francisco, we are particularly grief stricken by the death of Don Turner, the BRIDGE Housing Corporation executive, who was a member of the delegation.

Don Turner is a great lost to the San Francisco Bay Area and the affordable housing community nationwide. In his life, he gave dignity and hope to American families by providing shelter. Don Turner died as he had lived, bringing hope to people in need.

Now I would like to return my focus to Secretary Ron Brown. I had the privilege of working with Ron Brown since the early eighties, when we worked together putting together the 1984 Democratic Convention in San Francisco, but also working on the delegate selection process. In the convention in 1992, I served as cochair with Governor Romer of the Platform Committee. I mention those two relationships with Ron because in both of those instances, whether it was participation in the party, in the delegate selection process, or whether it was policy formation in putting together a platform, Ron Brown gave no tolerance to discrimination. Our party would be open and our policy would be open to all people in our society. Indeed, I believe that is a hallmark of the Clinton administration, and Ron Brown's influence was surely felt there.

I hope it is a comfort to all of the families of all of the people in the delegation, I hope it is a comfort to their loved ones that they are mourned by an entire Nation, that they died in a mission of peace, bringing humanitarian and economic assistance to the Balkans, and that their sacrifice will never be forgotten.

I want to particularly commend Alma Brown and extend sympathy to her and to Michael and to Tracy, Ron and Alma's children. Across the world, people saw Alma Brown as dignified in her sadness. I happened to be in Indonesia when we got the news, and even at that distance, the press was one of great admiration and, of course, sympathy for Alma. But she led us through this tragic time, through this sadness, in a way that I know would have made Ron Brown very, very proud. But, of course, he knew that about Alma.

So I would say that as we mourn, the leaders of the delegation, we must also remember the patriotic members of the military on the flight and the members of the Commerce Department staff. The prayers of my family I know will always be with the Brown family, as well as with the families of this mission of peace.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. CHAMBLISS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. CHAMBLISS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. GONZALEZ] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GONZALEZ addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE TEEN PREGNANCY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. THURMAN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for organizing tonight's special orders. I would also like to commend her for her leadership in urging Members to become more actively involved in President Clinton's National Campaign To Reduce Teen Pregnancy.

First, we must face a distressing reality. More and more teens in our Nation are getting pregnant every year. Births to mothers under the age of 18 are on the rise, and we must work together to address this crisis.

The statistics in my home State of Florida are disturbing. Florida ranks 10th in the Nation in births to children aged 10 to 14 and 16th for teens between the ages of 15 to 19. Even more disheartening is the fact that of Florida's 17,641 teen births in 1994, almost 1 in 5 were repeat pregnancies.

Yes—these figures are alarming. However, there is hope. In fact, some promising programs in my district have demonstrated success in preventing teen pregnancy. Tonight, I would like to highlight these successful programs—programs which offer preventive strategies to solve the dilemma of teen pregnancy. Rather than continue the punitive approach Congress has taken with the welfare debate, citizens in my district are taking positive action.